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KLAN LEADER VOWS TO AID NICARAGUAN REBELS
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Ku Klux Klan leader Don Black says that once he gets out of prison for violating the Neutrality Act he will organize Klansmen to aid rebels fighting the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

"Within three months we hope to have the first units of the Nathan Bedford Forrest Brigade in Honduras and ready to fight against the communist government in Nicaragua," said Black.

The Klansman, in an interview published Thursday by the Birmingham Post Herald, explained that Nathan Bedford Forrest was a Confederate cavalry officer who became the first grand wizard of the Klan in 1866.

Black said Forrest "authored much of what we know about guerrilla warfare."

Black, 30, is serving a two-year sentence at a federal prison in Big Spring, Texas, for violating the Neutrality Act, which forbids American citizens from launching an invasion against nations with which the United States is at peace.

Black, who formerly was a medical technologist in Birmingham, and 10 cohorts were arrested near New Orleans in 1981 as they set out to invade the predominantly black Caribbean island-nation of Dominica.

The Klan grand wizard said he's not worried about violating the Neutrality Act in Nicaragua because "the Justice Department has indicated by failing to prosecute others involved in this type activity that there is no violation of the act."

Black noted there has been no government action against the Decatur, Ala.-based Civilian Military Assistance organization, which had two of its members killed last month when their helicopter was shot down by a Sandinista rocket.

The Klansman said assembling his group in Honduras, rather than Nicaragua itself, "will ensure that our activities are legal."

"We don't intend to work for the CIA, but we will certainly cooperate with any government agency working for the same objective in Nicaragua," said Black.

He said he is making a national call for volunteers from Klan chapters to form a 120-man cadre to assist the anti-communist Nicaraguan rebels "who lost official U.S. aid last month.

"We will have members who are experts in agriculture, psychological warfare and military tactics," said Black.